

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church
A Congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America

2903 State Hwy. 155, Sayner, WI 54560 715-542-3701
Website: www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org

MINSTERS: THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
LLM: William Wendorf 715-617-6477
Council President: Sharon Geist 715-892-7486

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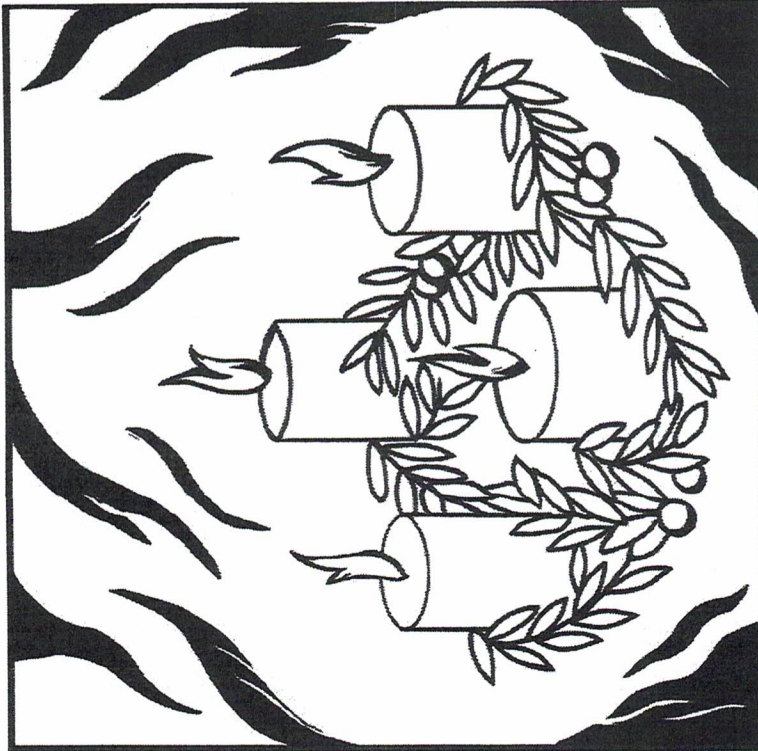
Church Services are held on Sundays at 9:00 am.
Services will be recorded and available for viewing on
YouTube later on Sundays.

WELCOME GUESTS

We invite you to sign our guest book and/or complete a visitor card to help us remember you. Please let us know if we can serve you in any way. Everyone is welcome to Holy Communion at Shepherd of the Lakes. Come forward as ushers direct, receive the wafer in your hand and move to the wine which is served in individual portions. We offer grape juice as an alternative to wine. Gluten-free wafers are also available at your request from communion servers when you partake.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Empowered by the power of the Holy Spirit and rooted in the Good News of Jesus Christ, we are a loving community that follows Jesus & seeks to hear the Word of God and practice it in our daily lives.



1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday November 29, 2020

PRAYER REQUESTS



(Please note: "Current issue" listings remain in the bulletin for three weeks and then are removed unless instructions are received to move that listing to the "ongoing health issues" list.)

Thanksgiving Dinner:

Due to the generosity of one of our congregation, 44 individual Thanksgiving dinners were dispensed on Thanksgiving Day. Thank you all for participating in our annual event. Next year we hope to be back in the kitchen!

Pastor's Discretionary Holiday Fund:

We are once again taking donations for the holiday gift card and supporting organizations donations. Please see the letter from Bill regarding this mission which has been emailed to the congregation and included in the December Newsletter.

ELCA Grant – Weekend Backpack Fundraiser:


Congratulations to you all for the humbling response to our Weekend Backpack Fundraiser. Donations totaled \$960.00 with a matching amount of \$500.00 from the ELCA. Thank you all.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service:

The Christmas Eve service has been scheduled for 4:00 pm on December 24, 2020.

South Entrance Addition:

Great progress has been made. The south entrance is now enclosed and work is continuing on the interior.

Recorded Services: All Sunday services at Shepherd of the Lakes are recorded and put on YouTube, later on Sunday.
Go to the Church website at shepherdofthelakeschurch.org and look for the  symbol. Click on this symbol to take you to the Church's YouTube site.

Pray for those dealing with current issues:

Continue to pray for those in the world affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Pray for our world leaders, church leaders, and Shepherd of the Lakes leaders so that they may help to meet the needs of those they serve as we move forward in these everchanging times.

Pray for those with ongoing health issues:

Larry & Joannie Stephenson, Arlene Dreyfus, Rich Kysiak, Julie Smith, Elaine Kuhlmann & Family, Meri, Ray, & Carolyn, Elaine Kuhlmann & Family, Chris & Ed (Evie's family), Sharon Brooker, Tracey Ahlborn family, and Tom & Carol Miles.

Pray for those serving in the Armed Forces: Jeff Hammer, Brian Krieck, Adam & Brittany Recob, Brooks Maines, Will Schmidt, Sgt. Keara Kangas, Alex Bauer, Jared Mann, Noah Storaasli, and Zachary Raatz.

Pray for those in nursing homes or homebound: Ramona Schaeffel, Mel & Barb Harvey, and Elisabeth Jacobsen.

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Please email Bill Wendorf at pastor@SOTLsayner.com or Jean Maines at secretary@SOTLsayner.com if you would like to be included on the prayer chain list. Prayer requests are sent out via email.

If anyone is interested in being the contact person for the prayer chain, please contact Bill Wendorf or Sharon Geist

Sunday, November 29, 2020

1st Sunday of Advent

Old Problems and New Beginnings

By now the last of the leaves have likely fallen from trees in northern climes, and any still holding on look dry and dead. Snow has arrived, and its thick blanket shows the stains of city filth and grime, reminding us of the waste we are pouring over the land and into the water. This is the season we begin a new year in the life of the church and, as with our worship, we begin with a confession of our participation in the world's suffering.

Heavy hearts and burdened consciences will relate to Isaiah's confession, "We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away" (Isa. 64:6). Then, just as the cold nights in the northern hemisphere reach their longest, Mark addresses us with promises that the signs of the coming of the Son of Man will include the darkening of the sun, moon, and stars. Hold on, there is hope!

The promise of Advent is that God is always at work in the world, bringing new beginnings and a new creation to people and powers long bent on destruction. Yet, because we live in the generation that exists between the "already" of Christ's resurrection and the "not yet" of God's full restoration of the creation, we cannot know when that final day will arrive. Instead of becoming preoccupied with the end times, we are counseled to live our lives in a state of preparedness—trusting that our home is God's home and that God is coming once again to dwell with us. That trust is the strength that sustains us as we "wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 1:7).

Readings for December 6, 2020

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a
Gospel: Mark 1:1-8